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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/671,015	09/25/2003	James T. Crunkleton III	U43142 1010.1(2.6)	7872

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WOMBLE CARLYLE SANDRIDGE & RICE, PLLC  
ATTN: PATENT DOCKETING 32ND FLOOR  
P.O. BOX 7037  
ATLANTA, GA 30357-0037

EXAMINER

KAUFMAN, JOSEPH A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3754

DATE MAILED: 03/27/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/671,015

Applicant(s)

CRUNKLETON ET AL.

Examiner

Joseph A. Kaufman

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 January 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-77 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 70-77 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16, 18-32, 34-46, 48-62 and 64-69 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 17, 33, 47 and 63 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 1/16/2004.

- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

***Election/Restrictions***

1. Applicant's election without traverse of Group I, claims 1-69 in the reply filed on 1/12/2006 is acknowledged.

Claims 70-77 have been withdrawn from consideration.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1, 8, 34 and 39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Bosko.

Bosko shows a water supply 14; carbon dioxide supply 20; first carbonator 28; second carbonator 12; dispenser 12; and cold plate 16.

4. Claims 64 and 69 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Sturman et al.

Sturman et al. shows a gas cylinder 66 having a neck, throat, plug and membrane as seen in Figure 5; valve 82; and stem 68.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 2-7, 9, 10, 35-38, 40 and 41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bosko.

Bosko has been discussed above, but lacks the various pressures, percentages of carbon dioxide, and temperatures. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to optimize the pressures and temperatures in order to quickly and efficiently carbonate the water. Such optimal temperatures and pressures would be determined by routine experimentation and do not represent a patentable departure from the teachings of Bosko. Further, Bosko does teach in column 3, lines 33-45 that any level of carbonation may be provided in the carbonation circuits. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide the claimed levels of carbonation as one would clearly look to provide the drink with the correct/optimal amount of carbon dioxide.

7. Claims 65-68 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sturman et al.

Sturman et al. has been discussed above, but lacks the pressure limits, capacity and material to make the gas cylinder. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide the materials, capacity and pressure as claimed as this would

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clearly be determined by the desired use of the container and the desired safety precautions. Such measurements do not represent a patentable departure from the teachings of Sturman et al.

8. Claims 11-15, 18-31, 42-46 and 48-61 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bosko in view of Sturman et al.

Bosko has been discussed above, but lacks the details of the gas cylinder. Sturman et al. discloses a gas cylinder for a carbonated beverage as discussed above as well. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide the gas cylinder as taught by Sturman et al. on the device of Bosko as Bosko is silent to the details of the gas cylinder and the device of Sturman et al. would provide for a portable, reliable and safe container/valve structure.

9. Claim 16 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bosko in view of McCann et al.

Bosko has been discussed above, but lacks the pneumatic pump. McCann et al. teaches a pneumatic pump 110 and its associated structure. It would have been obvious to provide the pump as taught by McCann et al. on the device of Bosko in order to provide a motive force to the water without need for an additional power source.

10. Claims 32 and 62 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bosko as modified by Sturman et al. as applied to claims 18 and 48 above, and further in view of McCann et al.

Bosko and Sturman et al. have been discussed above, but lack the pneumatic pump. McCann et al. teaches a pneumatic pump 110 and its associated structure. It

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would have been obvious to provide the pump as taught by McCann et al. on the device of Bosko as modified by Sturman et al. in order to provide a motive force to the water without need for an additional power source.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

11. Claims 17, 33, 47 and 63 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

***Conclusion***


12. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Grill, Schramm, Jr., Singleterry et al., and Crisp, III show carbonating devices.

13. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joseph A. Kaufman whose telephone number is (571) 272-4928. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday, 5:30AM-2PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Mar can be reached on (571) 272-4906. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
Joseph A. Kaufman  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 3754  
3/15/06

jak  
March 15, 2006